



# UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
-----------------	-------------	----------------------	---------------------	------------------

10/083,425

02/25/2002

Richard L. Bulman

61195/377475

6742

23370 7590 12/29/2009

JOHN S. PRATT, ESQ  
KILPATRICK STOCKTON, LLP  
1100 PEACHTREE STREET  
SUITE 2800  
ATLANTA, GA 30309

EXAMINER

NGUYEN, PHU K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2628

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

12/29/2009

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/083,425	<b>Applicant(s)</b> BULMAN ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b> PHU NGUYEN	<b>Art Unit</b> 2628	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 September 2009.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 14-44, 46-73, 91, 93 and 95-97 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 14-44, 46-73, 91, 93 and 95-97 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>9/09, 11/09 &amp; 12/09</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 14-44, 46-73, 91, 93, 95-97 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over STRANDBERG (6,054,999) in view of DOI et al. (5,459,829).

As per claim 14, Strandberg teaches the claimed "system for providing a customized media stream," comprising:

"a plurality of media presentation sources for providing media presentation streams"  
(Strandberg, the record system 2; column 7, lines 51-61);

"first and second media streams from one or more of said media presentation sources for representing media presentations" (Standberg, the body movement and the head of the cartoon figure; column 8, lines 21-56);

"said first media stream including a first portion of a first body" (Strandberg, each portion of the cartoon character is stored separately; column 3, lines 12-15, 61-64; column 4, lines 18-24; column 8, lines 21-38; column 10, lines 29-34);

Art Unit: 2628

“said second media stream including a second portion of a second body” (Strandberg, each portion of the cartoon character is stored separately; column 3, lines 12-15, 61-64; column 4, lines 18-24; column 8, lines 21-38; column 10, lines 29-34);

“a media stream processor accessible to said first and second media streams and operable to derive reference information from said first portion of said first body on said first media stream and said second portion of said second body on said second media stream based on a selection criteria” (Standberg, the workstation 4 derives the combination of the cartoon’s body comprising different portions connected through joints M1-M10; column 8, lines 21-45; column 10, lines 5-11, 29-35); and

“based on said derived reference information, said system being capable of providing said customized media stream having a composite body defined by combining said first portion of said first body with said second portion of said second body” (Strandberg, column 9, line 61 to column 10, line 35; column 11, lines 32-43).

It is noted that Strandberg does not explicitly teach “resizing said first portion of said first body to proportionally conform with said second portion of said body”.

However, Doi teaches that when combining different portions of a body, an proportional adjustment of the sizes of individual portions is well known in the art (Doi, the display control section 93; column 10, line 61 to column 11, line 64; column 19, lines 43-51; column 25, lines 18-21). It would have been obvious, in view of the teaching of Doi, to configure Strandberg’s system as claimed by adjusting the sizes of the portions when

Art Unit: 2628

combining them to provide a result image with proportional portions. The motivation of resizing the stored portions is to reduce the memory required for all the sizes of portions needed when assembling the composite images.

Claims 91 and 93 claim a method and a memory storing a program to perform a method based on the system of claim 14; therefore, they are rejected under the same reason.

Claim 15 adds into claim 14 “said media stream processor can operate on said first and second media stream portions with said reference information to provide said combination” (Strandberg, the measuring points M1-M5 for the joints; column 11, lines 32-37).

Claim 16 add into claim 14 “said selection criteria is related to at least one of a reference point, a scaling factor, a rotation axis and a rotation degree” (Strandberg, the measuring points M1-M5 for the joints; column 11, lines 32-37).

Claim 17 adds into claim 14 “said selection criteria is related to at least one of a reference time point, a reference time length and a synchronization signal” (Strandberg, the body movements are generated through the combination of the body parts moving in a timing schedule; column 11, lines 1-3).

Claim 18 adds into claim 14 “said combination includes an overlay of said first media stream portion on said second media stream portion to form said customized media stream” (Strandberg, column 11, lines 32-43).

Claim 19 adds into claim 14 “external control information; and at least a portion of said selection criteria is derived from external control information” (Strandberg, the algorithm for mouth on the external memory 7; column 8, lines 18-20, line 65 to column 9, line 7).

Claim 20 adds into claim 14 “a transmission medium coupled to said media stream processor for transmitting at least one of said first and second media stream portions, said reference information and said combination” (Strandberg, column 8, lines 7-20).

Claim 21 adds into claim 20 “a user interface coupled to said transmission medium for receiving said at least one of said first and second media stream portions, said reference information and said combination” (Strandberg, Actor Generated Movement Info. 3, figure 1); and “a display coupled to said user interface for displaying said combination” (Strandberg, workstation 4).

Claim 22 adds into claim 21 “said media stream processor can operate on said first and second media stream portions with said reference information to provide said combination; and said media stream processor is operable to present said combination to said transmission medium for transmission to said user interface for display” (Strandberg, column 9, line 61 to column 10, line 63).

Claims 23-44 and 46-73 a into claim 14 the details of process which are widely known in the art and Applicant’s disclosure does not provide any specific reason or advantage uses of these components; therefore, they are regarded as mere design choice for using these components according to their well known functions (official notice)

Claims 95-97 claim a system, a method, and a memory based on the claimed system of claim14-22; therefore, they are rejected under the same reason.

Claims 93 and 97 are objected to because of the following informalities: After “executable” (claims 93, 97, line 1), insert - - by a computing device - - to explicitly show the implementation of a computer device. Appropriate correction is required.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to PHU NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571)272-7645. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F/8AM-4:30PM.

Art Unit: 2628

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kee Tung can be reached on (571) 272 7794. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/ Phu K. Nguyen/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2628